

REMARKS

The above noted Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered and, in view of the amendments herein to the claims and the following representations, reconsideration of the application in its present form is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendment herein of Claims 1, 9 and 12, it is respectfully submitted that the claims more particularly point out distinctly claim the method of the present invention, as also defined similarly in allowed Claim 16.

For example, amended Claim 1 describes a micro adjuster which laterally moves a paper punch die, wherein the micro adjuster includes a hollow micro adjuster element which includes a separate retaining fastener at a distal end thereof. The retaining fastener attaches to the die, and is engaged by a wrench being inserted through an axial bore of the hollow body of the micro adjuster, to enable fine lateral adjustments of alignment between the paper to be punched and the die.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 1 and 8 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 3,241,353 of Putelli, in view of the amendments herein to independent Claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Putelli '353 should now be withdrawn.

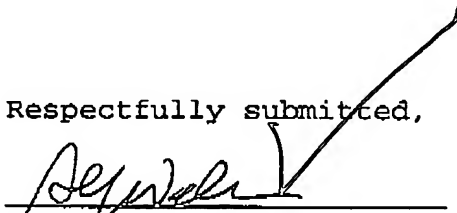
Putelli '353 has only a small hollow dimple in one end of the fasteners 24 or 38, not an axial bore extending all the way through a hollow fastener having a wrench extending through the bore to a retaining fastener at a distal end of the bore, as also recited in allowed Claim 16 herein.

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION

I certify that the above noted Amendment was
transmitted by fax transmission to 703-872-9302 on the date
indicated below.

Tuesday January 20, 2004


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